

MINUTES  
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES  
APRIL 26, 2002

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges was held on Friday, April 26, 2002, at 9:00 a.m., on the Jefferson Davis Campus of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Biloxi, Mississippi.

**Members present:** Mrs. Sara Fox, Mrs. Joanna Heidel, Mrs. Veldore Heidelberg, Mr. Henry Hudspeth, Mr. George Walker, Mr. Lawrence Warren, and Mrs. Brenda Yonge.

**Member absent:** Mr. Jimmy Murphy.

**Staff in attendance:** Dr. Olon Ray, Dr. Randall Bradberry, Mrs. Becky Cade, Dr. Larry Day, Mrs. Deborah Gilbert, Mrs. Sandra Lucas, Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, and Dr. Evelyn Webb.

**Guests in attendance:** Dr. Willis Lott, Mrs. Colleen Hartfield, Dr. Reginald Sykes, Dr. Rick Christmas, and Dr. Cheryl Thompson – Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College and Dr. Bill Smith – IHL.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman George Walker called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., and all guests present introduced themselves. Mr. Walker thanked Dr. Willis Lott and Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College for hosting the meeting.

**PRELIMINARIES**

Mrs. Brenda Yonge gave the invocation.

**Approval of Minutes of the March 22, 2002 Meeting**

Upon a motion by Mr. Henry Hudspeth and a second by Ms. Joanna Heidel, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2002, meeting.

**Review and Approval of Agenda**

Upon a motion by Mr. Henry Hudspeth and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

**WELCOME AND COMMENTS**

Dr. Willis Lott welcomed the SBCJC to Jefferson Davis Campus of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. Dr. Lott gave a Powerpoint presentation highlighting key points of Gulf Coast's strategic plan and mission to assist students in reaching their educational goals. Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College's motto is "To make a positive difference in peoples' lives everyday."

The Board also viewed a video presentation celebrating teacher excellence at Gulf Coast highlighting the recipients of the Teacher of the Year Awards, Ms. Kay Sims – English instructor from Jackson County Campus, Ms. Mary Davidson – Fine Arts instructor from the Jefferson

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Davis Campus, and Ms. Gail Green-Acquirre – History instructor from the Perkinston Campus.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Dr. Olon Ray expressed his appreciation to Dr. Lott and the Gulf Coast staff for hosting the SBCJC meeting.

Dr. Ray shared that he would be out of the SBCJC office for the next few weeks. He will be traveling the state to visit each of the community and junior colleges.

Dr. Ray announced that the SBCJC staff is working to hire a Program Specialist to work with Mississippi displaced workers. The position will be funded with federal Workforce Investment Act monies. The Program Specialist would work closely with the colleges to coordinate with other agencies to bring services to the public.

Dr. Ray stated that Dr. Stuart Rosenfeld with RTS, Inc., will present an initial report of the Strategic Plan being developed for the State Workforce Development Council (SWDC) at the May 8, 2002, SWDC meeting. A final report will be presented at the June, 2002, Council meeting.

Dr. Ray reported that Mr. Donald Green's and Mr. David Marsh's appointment to the Board was not confirmed during the Legislative Session. Through no fault of their own, rather, they did not meet certain residential criteria required for appointment to the SBCJC. Governor Ronnie Musgrove's office has notified them they were not eligible to attend today's meeting.

Dr. Ray announced that the Mississippi Small Business Administration had named SWDC member, Mr. Joe Jones, Mississippi's Small Business Journalist of the Year.

Dr. Ray reported that the IHL-USM Gulf Park Campus lawsuit has been finalized. He stated that a final accounting of the funding of the lawsuit is being prepared and a copy will be forwarded to each SBCJC member. Any funds remaining will remain in the Mississippi Community and Junior College Public Foundation account.

Dr. Ray recommended that the Board prepare and adopt a resolution of commendation for Mr. Al Sleppy in appreciation for his leadership of the Mississippi Community and Junior College Public Foundation. He also suggested that Mr. Sleppy be presented with a plaque. Upon a motion by Mr. Henry Hudspeth and a second by Mrs. Sara Fox, the Board voted unanimously to adopt a resolution of commendation and have a plaque prepared for Mr. Al Sleppy.

Dr. Ray joined with the Board in expressing sympathy to Mr. Lawrence Warren and his family at the recent death of his father.

### **REPORTS/ACTION**

#### **Workforce Report**

Mr. George Walker invited all SBCJC members to attend the May SWDC meeting in Jackson. He stated that RTS, Inc., personnel will present the draft report for the Council's strategic plan during the meeting. The final report will be presented to the SWDC in June. Mr. Walker

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reminded the Board that the study was funded with Federal Workforce Investment Act monies.

Mr. Walker reported on the final appropriation for workforce training funding. He again expressed thanks to SWDC member, Mr. Joe Jones for his help in promoting workforce training needs by meeting with editorial board personnel across the state.

#### Executive Director Search

Mr. Walker reported that the SBCJC Executive Director Search Committee would meet this afternoon to review nine (9) applications received in response to the job vacancy announcement.

The committee will meet again in early May to begin the initial interview process. Mr. Walker reported that all Board members would be kept up to date on the committee's activities. Mrs. Veldore Heidelberg volunteered to serve on the committee in the absence of Mr. Donald Green.

#### Legislative Report

Dr. Wayne Stonecypher gave the Board a final report on Legislation passed during the 2002 Session that directly and indirectly affects the SBCJC and colleges.

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert distributed and briefly covered a worksheet showing a recap of reductions from fiscal year 2000 through fiscal year 2003 appropriations (Exhibit A).

\*The meeting recessed at 10:25 a.m.

\*\*The meeting reconvened at 10:40 a.m.

#### Program Report

Mrs. Joanna Heidel distributed a list of 2002 New Program Requests (Exhibit B). After the Mississippi State Department of Education reviews the program applications and decides on which will be funded, the Board will then consider those programs for approval at a future meeting.

Mrs. Joanna Heidel made a motion seconded by Mrs. Sara Fox, that the SBCJC approve a request from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College to convert the one-year Teacher Assistant Program to a two-year technical program to comply with recent federal regulations that will require that teacher assistants possess an associate degree by 2006. Motion passed unanimously. A one-year certificate would still be issued to those students who prefer to exit the program and work in appropriate childcare settings that would not require the two-year degree.

Mrs. Joanna Heidel made a motion seconded by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, that the SBCJC approve a request from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College to add a Billing and Coding Option to the existing Medical Office Technology concentration/cluster. Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Joanna Heidel made a motion seconded by Mrs. Veldore Heidelberg, that the SBCJC approve a request from Holmes Community College to expand the Computer Programming Option currently being taught at the Grenada Comprehensive Center to the Ridgeland Campus. Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Joanna Heidel made a motion seconded by Mrs. Sara Fox, that the SBCJC approve a

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request from Holmes Community College to expand the Engineering Technology Program currently offered on the Goodman and Ridgeland Campuses, to the Grenada Comprehensive Center. Motion passed unanimously.

Upon a motion by Mrs. Joanna Heidel and a second by Mr. Henry Hudspeth, the SBCJC voted unanimously to remove from probation the following programs:

Practical Nursing – Copiah Lincoln Community College, Natchez  
Machinist – East Central Community College  
Machine Shop Assistant – Meridian Community College  
Construction Equipment Operator – Mississippi Delta Community College  
Industrial Maintenance – Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Jeff Davis  
Welding – Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, George County  
Dental Assisting – Pearl River Community College, Hattiesburg  
Heating and Air Conditioning – Southwest Mississippi Community College.

Upon a motion by Mrs. Joanna Heidel and a second by Mrs. Sara Fox, the SBCJC voted unanimously to terminate the following programs:

MIS & Data Processing – East Mississippi Community College, Golden Triangle  
Microcomputer Option under the Business and Office Technology Program-  
Jones County Junior College  
Industrial Technology – Mississippi Delta Community College  
Printing Equipment Operation – Mississippi Delta Community College  
Pharmacy Technician – Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Jeff Davis.

Upon a motion by Mrs. Joanna Heidel and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board voted unanimously to place the following programs on probation:

Pulp & Paper Technology – Copiah Lincoln Community College, Wesson  
Plastics Technology – Jones County Junior College  
Auto Mechanics – Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Perkinston  
Manufacturing Technology – Northeast Mississippi Community College  
Machine Shop Assistant – Southwest Mississippi Community College.

Mrs. Heidel announced that a recommendation of an individual to serve on the Commission on Proprietary Schools and College Registration in a position currently held by Mr. Bob Beasley would be made to the full Board at the next meeting.

Mrs. Heidel presented a copy of a policy regarding legislation passed that will allow the SBCJC office to charge for additional GED diplomas and transcripts. Each person taking the GED and passing will be issued one diploma and one transcript at no charge. The policy sets fees for additional copies of the GED diplomas and transcripts. After a review and brief discussion, the Board changed the policy to indicate that only "cashiers checks, certified checks, and money orders" would be accepted. Upon a motion by Mrs. Joanna Heidel and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board voted unanimously to approve submission of the GED Fee Charge Policy with the changes, to the Secretary of State's Office to begin the Administrative Procedures Process.

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#### EDNET Report

Dr. Evelyn Webb reported on an EDNET meeting held on April 15, 2002. She reported that Mr. Martin Mangold, EDNET president, informed the Board that WorldCom had requested a two-week extension with regard to the contract settlement. The Board expects to receive a response from WorldCom by Friday, April 19, 2002. She reported that WorldCom is experiencing some grave financial challenges, and EDNET's legal counsel is concerned about what affect this will have on their settlement offer.

Dr. Webb reported that the EDNET Board and staff are very concerned about the financial future of EDNET. They are investigating several entrepreneurial type ventures to secure monies to build out the wireless infrastructure for the entire state.

Dr. Webb stated that EDNET had been notified that the TOPS (Technical Opportunities Grant) they applied for had been accepted for review. The grant in the amount of \$647,992.00 will allow EDNET to increase its programming if the grant is awarded.

EDNET has not yet released the RFP to identify a new private partner. The Board will decide on a mailing date in the near future.

#### Finance Report

Upon a motion by Mrs. Sara Fox and a second by Mr. Lawrence Warren, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Budget Contingency Fund and Education Enhancement Fund Disbursements for April 2002, from funds 3295, 4080, and 4110, in the total amount of \$2,775,147.00 (Exhibit C).

Upon a motion by Mrs. Sara Fox and a second by Mr. Henry Hudspeth, the Board voted unanimously to approve Z- 1 Budget Escalation for 100% Federal Funds Revision #9 for U. S. Department of Labor WIA funds in the amount of \$19,320 to coordinate and enhance training opportunities and services for the Workforce Investment Act/Dislocated Workers program (Exhibit D).

Upon a motion by Mrs. Sara Fox and a second by Mrs. Veldore Heidelberg, the Board voted unanimously to approve a modification to an existing contract with ETV to enhance monitoring, troubleshooting, maintenance and support services for the CCN by purchasing a H.323 card and 16 slot Accord Chassis with Senate Bill 2945 Bond Funds, in the amount of \$35,000.

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert presented copies of a draft of the FY 2004 Support Budget Request for the Board's review (Exhibit E). She asked the Board to review the information and welcomed any input for preparation of the budget request. The recommendations will be presented to the Board at the May meeting for further discussion. No action was required.

Mrs. Fox presented financial statements for Funds 2291 and 3291 for the period ending March 31, 2002, (Exhibit F).

Upon a motion by Mrs. Sara Fox and a second by Mrs. Joanna Heidel, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Quarterly Capital Improvements Report (Exhibit G).

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#### Renewal of the ACCT Membership

After a brief discussion, a motion by Mr. Henry Hudspeth, and a second by Mr. Lawrence Warren, the Board voted unanimously to approve the expenditure of \$390.00 to renew membership in the Association of Community and Junior College Trustees.

#### Legislative Mandated Funding Study

Dr. Ray briefly discussed Legislation passed during the 2002 Session that mandated a study of the current community and junior college funding formula. The Legislation did not include funding for the study. SBCJC staff is working to develop a Request for Proposal (RFP) that will hopefully minimize costs by using existing resources. The study includes state and local district funding. Dr. Ray stated that the study has the potential to be very comprehensive.

#### Property Audit Report

Dr. Ray congratulated Mrs. Sandra Lucas, SBCJC Purchasing and Records Technician, on receiving notification of a 100% audit of SBCJC property. The current value of SBCJC equipment is \$2,966,499.86.

#### Election of Officers

Chairman George Walker opened the floor for election of officers for the July 2002 – June 2003 year.

Mrs. Veldore Heidelberg made a motion seconded by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, that Mr. George Walker be elected SBCJC Chairman for the 2002-2003 year. Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Sara Fox made a motion seconded by Mr. Lawrence Warren, that Mr. Henry Hudspeth be elected SBCJC Vice-Chairman for the 2002-2003 year. Motion passed unanimously.

#### Travel Authorizations

Chairman Walker asked for requests to authorize travel reimbursements for events other than regularly scheduled Board meetings. On a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by Mrs. Veldore Heidelberg, the Board voted unanimously to approve requests for reimbursement of travel expenses for the following:

Mr. George Walker for attending SWDC meetings on April 9, and May 8, the MS Quality Awards Program in Jackson on April 19, a meeting with Representative Clark in Lexington on April 23, an ETV program on April 30, and a meeting to conduct initial interviews for the Executive Director's position on May 9, 2002, in Jackson, Mississippi.

Mr. Jimmy Murphy for attending an EDNET meeting on April 15, 2002.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Upon a motion by Mr. Henry Hudspeth and a second by Mr. Lawrence Warren, the Board voted unanimously to draft and forward a letter of appreciation to Dr. Willis Lott and the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community staff for hosting the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

  
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George Walker, Chairman

  
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Olon E. Ray, Executive Director